

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claim 23 as marked below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A web-handling cylinder comprising a cylinder having a circumferential surface and at least one sensor associated with the circumferential surface for detecting a force applied by a web against the surface.
2. (original) The cylinder of claim 1 wherein the at least one sensor determines a normal force exerted by the web at a point on the cylinder's circumferential surface.
3. (original) The cylinder of claim 1 wherein the at least one sensor comprises a force-sensitive resistor.
4. (original) The cylinder of claim 1 wherein the at least one sensor comprises a load cell.
5. (original) The cylinder of claim 1 wherein the at least one sensor comprises a piezo-electric sheet based sensor.
6. (original) A web-handling system comprising:
 - a) a cylinder including a circumferential surface and a sensing device comprising at least one sensor associated with the circumferential surface for detecting a force applied by a web against the surface; and
 - b) an actuation device, responsive to the detected force, for adjusting the force applied by the web against the circumferential surface of the cylinder.

7. (original) The system of claim 6 wherein the sensing device further comprises a processor for receiving an input from the at least one sensor, processing the input and sending an output to the actuation device.

8. (original) The system of claim 6 wherein the actuation device increases the force applied by the web against the circumferential surface of the cylinder in response to detected web slippage or loss of contact between the web and the circumferential surface of the cylinder.

9. (original) The system of claim 6 wherein the sensing device, together with the actuation device, maintains a set value for the force applied by the web against the circumferential surface of the cylinder.

10. (original) The system of claim 9 wherein said set value comprises a range.

11. (original) The system of claim 6 wherein the actuation device comprises at least one positioning device that changes the position of at least one of a web-supply spool and a web-uptake spool.

12. (original) The system of claim 10 wherein the positioning device changes spool position along a line.

13. (original) The system of claim 10 wherein the actuation device comprises a first positioning device that changes the position of the web-supply spool and a second positioning device that changes the position of the web-uptake spool.

14. (original) The system of claim 10 wherein the cylinder further comprises a cavity, and the web-supply spool and the web-uptake spool are disposed in the cavity.

15. (original) The system of claim 10 wherein the cylinder further comprises multiple cavities, and the web-supply spool and the web-uptake spool are disposed in separate cavities.

16. (original) The system of claim 6 wherein the actuation device adjusts the rotation of the cylinder.

17. (original) The system of claim 6 wherein the actuation device adjusts the rotation of at least one of a web-supply spool and a web-uptake spool.

18. (original) The system of claim 6 wherein the at least one sensor is selected from the group consisting of a force-sensitive resistor, a load cell and a piezo-electric sheet based sensor.

19. (original) A method for detecting a force applied by a web against a cylinder surface, the method comprising associating at least one sensor with a circumferential surface of a cylinder.

20. (original) The method of claim 19 wherein the at least one sensor comprises a force-sensitive resistor.

21. (original) The method of claim 19 wherein the at least one sensor comprises a load cell.

22. (original) The method of claim 19 wherein the at least one sensor comprises a piezo-electric sheet.

23. (currently amended) A method for adjusting a force applied by a web against a cylinder surface, the method comprising the steps of:

a) associating a sensing device comprising at least one sensor with a circumferential surface of a cylinder for detecting a force applied by a web against the surface; and

b) adjusting the force applied by a web against the ~~circumferential~~ surface of the cylinder in response to the force detected by the at least one sensor.

24. (original) The method of claim 23 further wherein the sensing device further comprises a processor for receiving an input from the at least one sensor, processing the input and sending an output to the actuation device.

25. (original) The method of claim 23 wherein the adjusting step comprises changing the position of at least one of a web-supply spool and a web-uptake spool.

26. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the web-supply spool and the web-uptake spool are disposed in one cavity in the cylinder.

27. (original) The method of claim 25 wherein the web-supply spool and the web-uptake spool are disposed in separate cavities in the cylinder.